

## **GLOSSARY**

Sources for this glossary include: Forest Ecosystem Management: An Ecological, Economic, and Social Assessment; Report of the Forest Ecosystem Management Assessment Team (FEMAT) 1993; Southwest Idaho Ecogroup Forest Plans; Upper Columbia River Basin DEIS; Region 4 Revision Desk Guide; Resource Planning Act Program Glossary 1995; and USDA Forest Service Manual and Handbook, Pacfish and Infish EAs, State of Idaho Forestry Practices Act, USDA Forest Service and BLM Hydrologic Analysis, American Fisheries Society Glossary, Soil Hydrologic Reconnaissance Reports on the Boise, Payette, and Sawtooth National Forests, and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) Bull Trout Recovery Plans.

### **abiotic**

Non-living (refers to air, rocks, soil particles, etcetera).

### **access management**

See travel management.

### **activity area**

The smallest logical land area where the effect that is being analyzed or monitored is expected to occur. The area may vary in size depending on the effect that is being analyzed or monitored, because some effects are quite localized and some occur across landscapes. Activity areas are to be specifically described when used in planning and project implementation documents.

- **snags** – The activity area for snags is the specific site affected by actions listed below, whether effects are positive or negative. Actions affecting activity areas that need to be assessed include timber harvest, site-preparation reforestation, timber stand improvement, and prescribed fire. The activity area reflects the scale at which to plan projects that provide for maintaining or improving trends in snag amounts.
- **coarse woody debris** – The activity area is the same as for snags above. However, this may also parallel the activity area for detrimental disturbance. See below.
- **detrimental disturbance** – The activity area is the specific area where proposed actions may have detrimental soil impacts, such as harvest units within a timber sale area, an individual pasture unit within a grazing allotment, or a burn block within a prescribed burn project area. Existing designated uses such as classified roads and trails, developed campgrounds, and buildings, are not considered detrimental disturbance within an activity area. See the definition for detrimental disturbance for more information.
- **total soil resource commitment** – Effects are generally measured across an all-inclusive activity area, like a timber sale area, a prescribed burn area, or a grazing allotment, where effects to soil commitment could occur or are occurring. Effects include both proposed actions and existing uses, such as roads (classified and non-classified), dedicated trails and landings, administrative sites, parking lots, and mine excavations. See the definition for total soil resource commitment for more information.

### **adaptive management**

A type of natural resource management in which decisions are made as part of an ongoing process. Adaptive management involves testing, monitoring, evaluation, and incorporating new knowledge into management approaches based on scientific findings and the needs of society.

### **adfluvial fish**

Fish that migrate between lake and river systems; such as land-locked kokanee salmon or some bull trout.

### **adverse effect**

For Forest Plan revision, “adverse effect” is used in the context of the Endangered Species Act relative to effects on Threatened, Endangered, Proposed, and Candidate (TEPC) species. Definitions are from Final Endangered Species Consultation Handbook; NMFS/USFWS, 1998. They include both “likely to adversely effect” and “not likely to adversely effect”. Both of these definitions are needed to clearly understand the intent of the phrase “adverse effect” when applied to Forest-wide and management area direction involving TEPC species. The definition of “take” is also included below to help clarify intent.

- Likely to adversely affect – the appropriate finding in a biological assessment (or conclusion during informal consultation) if any adverse effect to listed species may occur as a direct or indirect result of the proposed action or its interrelated or interdependent actions, and the effect is not discountable, insignificant, or beneficial (see definition of “not likely to adversely affect”). In the event the overall effect of the proposed action is beneficial to the listed species, but is also likely to cause some adverse effects, then the proposed action is “likely to adversely affect” the listed species. If incidental take is anticipated to occur as a result of the proposed action, an “is likely to adversely affect” determination should be made. A “likely to adversely affect” determination requires the initiation of formal Section 7 consultation.
- Not likely to adversely affect – the appropriate conclusion when effects on listed species are expected to be discountable, insignificant, or completely beneficial. Beneficial effects are contemporaneous positive effects without any adverse effects to the species. Insignificant effects relate to the size of the impact and should never reach the scale where take occurs. Discountable effects are those that are extremely unlikely to occur. Based on best judgment, a person would not: (1) be able to meaningfully detect, measure, or evaluate insignificant effects; or (2) expect discountable effects to occur.
- Take – to harass, harm, pursue, hunt, shoot, wound, kill, trap, capture, or collect or attempt to engage in any such conduct [ESA §3(19)]. Harm is further defined by FWS to include significant habitat modification or degradation that results in death or injury to listed species by significantly impairing behavioral patterns such as breeding, feeding, or sheltering. Harass is defined by FWS as actions that create the likelihood of injury to listed species to such an extent as to significantly disrupt normal behavior patterns which include, but are not limited to, breeding, feeding or sheltering (50 CFR § 17.3).

### **air pollutant**

Any substance in air that could, if in high enough concentration, harm humans, animals, vegetation, or material. Air pollutants may include almost any natural or artificial matter capable of being airborne in the form of solid particles, liquid droplets, gases, or a combination of these.

### **air quality**

The composition of air with respect to quantities of pollution therein; used most frequently in connection with “standards” of maximum acceptable pollutant concentrations.

### **allelopathic**

Growth inhibiting. Usually refers to chemicals produced by one species of plant to inhibit the growth of surrounding species, thus giving the chemical-producing plant a competitive edge.

**allotment (grazing)**

Area designated for the use of a certain number and kind of livestock for a prescribed period of time.

**Allowable Sale Quantity (ASQ)**

On a National Forest, the quantity of timber that may be sold from a designated area covered by the forest plan for a specified time period.

**All Terrain Vehicle (ATV)**

Any motorized, off-highway vehicle 50 inches or less in width, having a dry weight of 600 pounds or less that travels on three or more low-pressure tires with a seat designed to be straddled by the operator. Low-pressure tires are generally 6 inches or more in width and designed for use on wheel rim diameters of 12 inches or less, utilizing an operating pressure of 10 pounds per square inch (psi) or less.

**alternative**

In an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), one of a number of possible options for responding to the purpose and need for action.

**amenity**

Resource use, object, feature, quality, or experience that is pleasing to the mind or senses; typically refers to resources for which monetary values are not or cannot be established, such as scenery or wilderness.

**anadromous fish**

Fish that hatch and rear in fresh water, migrate to the ocean, mature there, and return to fresh water to reproduce; for example, salmon and steelhead.

**ancillary facilities** – Auxiliary facilities or structures that do not serve the main purpose of the facility but rather provide for support needs. For example, for a hydroelectric dam, the dam, powerhouse, penstock, and spillway would not be considered ancillary facilities, but a tool storage shed would.

**Animal Unit Month (AUM)**

The amount of forage required by a 1,000-pound cow and its calf, or the equivalent, for 1 month.

**Appropriate Management Response (AMR)**

Actions taken in response to a wildland fire to implement protection and fire use objectives.

**aquatic ecosystem**

40 CFR 230.3 - Waters of the United States that serve as habitat for interrelated and interacting communities and populations of plants and animals. FSM 2526.05 - The stream channel, lake or estuary bed, water, biotic communities and the habitat features that occur therein.

**Aquatic Integrity**

Aquatic integrity is an assessment and comparison of existing fish habitat conditions with historical conditions that existed before Euro-American settlement. Habitat conditions are assessed to determine how their integrity and resilience may have changed due to effects from past or current human-caused (road construction, timber harvest, livestock grazing, etc.) or natural (wildfire, floods, etc.) disturbance. Conditions or values assessed include numerous habitat parameters found in Appendix B of the Forest Plan. Relative integrity ratings are assigned at the subwatershed scale and are based on the quality of habitat conditions and the presence, abundance, and distribution of key native fish species.

**arterial road**

A road serving a large land area and usually connecting with public highways or other Forest Service arterial roads to form an integrated network of primary travel routes. The location and standards are often determined by a demand for maximum mobility and travel efficiency rather than specific resource management service. Arterial roads are usually developed and operated for long-term land and resource management purposes and constant service.

**attitudes, beliefs, and values**

FSH 1909.17. Preferences, expectations, and opinions people have for forests and the management and use of particular areas. Differing values and expectations have resulted in polarized perceptions that a healthy environment requires protection of lands from human influence, or increased attention to environmental quality presents a threat to employment, economy, or life-style.

**background (bg)**

The visual distance zone relating to the distant part of a landscape, generally located from 3 to 5 miles to infinity from the viewer.

**background wildfire**

Average amount of wildfire that occurs annually from small-sized (a through d) fires.

**bankfull stage**

The bankfull stage corresponds to the discharge at which channel maintenance is the most effective, that is, the discharge at which moving sediment forms or changes bends and meanders, and generally results in the average morphologic characteristics of channels. This term generally describes the elevation on the stream bank where the stream begins to flow onto a flood plain; however, not all stream channels have distinct flood plains.

**beneficial effect**

Beneficial effects are contemporaneous positive effects to resource, social, or economic conditions.

Specific to ESA and TEPC species, beneficial effects are contemporaneous positive effects without any adverse effects to the species. The appropriate conclusion when effects on listed species are expected to be beneficial would be: "Is not likely to adversely affect".

**beneficial use**

Any of the various uses that may be made of the water of an area, including, but not limited to: (1) agricultural water supply; (2) industrial water supply; (3) domestic water supply; (4) cold water biota; (5) primary contact recreational use; (6) secondary contact recreational use; (7) salmonid spawning, overwintering, emergence, and rearing; and (8) warm water biota.

**Best Management Practices (BMPs)**

Practices determined by the State of Idaho Division of Environmental Quality to be the most effective and practical means of preventing or reducing the amount of pollution generated by non-point sources.

**big game**

Large wild animals that are hunted for sport and food. This hunting is controlled by state wildlife agencies. Big game animals found on this Forest include deer, elk, and moose.

**bighorn sheep emphasis areas**

Areas identified by state wildlife agencies as being important to bighorn sheep (winter and summer habitat).

**biological diversity (or biodiversity)**

The variety and abundance of life and its processes. Biological diversity includes all living organisms, the genetic differences among them, and the communities and ecosystems in which they occur. Biological diversity also refers to the compositions, structures, and functions of species and habitats and their interactions.

**biophysical components**

Refers to biological and/or physical components in an ecosystem.

**biota**

Living material. The flora and fauna of an area.

**board foot**

A measurement of wood equivalent to a board 1 foot square and 1 inch thick. Usually expressed in terms of thousand board feet (MBF) or million board feet (MMBF).

**broadcast burning**

Burning forest fuels as they are, with no piling or windrowing.

**browse**

Twigs, leaves, and shoots of trees and shrubs that animals eat.

**Burned Area Emergency Response (BAER)**

A procedure used by the federal government to restore watershed conditions following large wildfires. The objective of BAER is to provide for immediate rehabilitation by stabilizing soils, and controlling water, sediment, and debris movement.

**candidate species**

Plant and animal species being considered for listing as endangered or threatened, in the opinion of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) or the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS). Category 1 candidate species are groups for which the FWS or NMFS has sufficient information to support listing proposals; category 2 candidate species are those for which available information indicates a possible problem, but that need further study to determine the need for listing.

**classified road**

Roads wholly or partially within or adjacent to national Forest System lands that are determined to be needed for long-term motor vehicle access. Classified roads can include state roads, county roads, privately owned roads, National Forest System roads, and other roads authorized by the Forest Service.

**Clean Air Act**

An Act of Congress established to protect and enhance the quality of the Nation's air through air pollution prevention and control.

### **Clean Water Act**

An Act of Congress which establishes policy to restore and maintain the chemical, physical, and biological integrity of the Nation's waters.

### **coarse filter approach**

A focus on whole communities or watersheds.

### **coarse woody debris (CWD)**

Pieces of woody material having a diameter of at least 3 inches and a length greater than 6 feet (also referred to as large woody debris, or LWD).

### **Cohesive Strategy (Current) Condition Classes**

The Cohesive Strategy for the National Fire Plan defines three current condition classes as follows:

*Condition Class 1* - Fire regimes are within an historical range, and the risk of losing key ecosystem components is low. Vegetation attributes (species composition and structure) are intact and functioning within an historical range.

*Condition Class 2* - Fire regimes have been moderately altered from their historical range. The risk of losing key ecosystem components is moderate. Fire frequencies have departed from their historical frequencies by one or more return intervals (either increased or decreased). This results in moderate changes to one or more of the following: fire size, intensity and severity, and landscape patterns. Vegetation attributes have been moderately altered from their historical range.

*Condition Class 3* - Fire regimes have been significantly altered from their historical range. The risk of losing key ecosystem components is high. Fire frequencies have departed from historical frequencies by multiple return intervals. This results in dramatic changes to one or more of the following: fire size, intensity, severity, and landscape patterns. Vegetation attributes have been significantly altered from their historical range.

### **Cohesive Strategy (Historical Natural) Fire Regimes**

The Cohesive Strategy for the National Fire Plan defines historical natural fire regimes as follows:

- Fire regime I           0-35-year frequency, nonlethal
- Fire regime II          0-35-year frequency, lethal
- Fire regime III        35-100+ year frequency, mixed
- Fire regime IV        35-100+ year frequency, lethal
- Fire regime V         200+ frequency, lethal

### **collaborative stewardship**

Caring for the land and serving people by listening to all constituents and by living within the limits of the land. A commitment to healthy ecosystems and working with people on the land.

### **collector road**

A road serving smaller land areas than an arterial road and usually connected to a Forest arterial road or public highway. These roads collect traffic from Forest local roads and/or terminal facilities. The location and standard are influenced by both long-term multi-resource service needs, as well as travel efficiency. These roads may be operated for either constant or intermittent service, depending on land use and resource management objectives for the area served by the facility.

**common variety minerals**

Minerals of sand, clay, cinders, roadside slough, fill dirt, etc., which have been specifically designated as common variety and are saleable under the discretion of the authorized officer.

**communication sites**

Areas designated for the operation of equipment, which reflect, transmit, and/or receive radio, microwave, and cellular telephone signals, for long-distance transmission or local pickup of programming.

**components of ecosystem management**

Biological diversity, physical diversity, social diversity, and economic diversity are the four components of the Southwest Idaho Ecosystem Management Framework.

**composition (species)**

The species that make up a plant or animal community, and their relative abundance.

**connectivity**

The arrangement of habitat that allows organisms and ecological processes to move across the landscape. Patches of similar habitats are either close together or connected by corridors of appropriate vegetation (or live stream channels). Opposite of fragmentation.

Sites in a landscape are “connected” if there are patterns or processes to link them in some way. These links arise either from static patterns (e.g., landforms, soil distributions, contiguous forest cover) or from dynamic processes (e.g., dispersal, fire). A particular landscape may have radically different degrees of connectivity with respect to different processes. Connectivity usually involves corridors and networks and describes how patches are connected in the landscape.

**conservation strategy or conservation agreement**

1. An active, affirmative process that (a) identifies issues and seeks input from appropriate American Indian governments, community groups, and individuals; and (b) considers their interests as a necessary an integral part of the BLM's and Forest Service's decision-making process.
2. Plans to remove or reduce threats to Candidate or Sensitive species of plants and animals so that a federal listing as Threatened or Endangered is unnecessary.

**controlled hunt area**

An area designated by the Idaho Department of Fish and Game to manage species, usually big game such as elk or deer.

**corridor (landscape)**

Landscape element that connect similar patches of habitat through an area with different characteristics. For example, streamside vegetation may create a corridor of willows and hardwoods between meadows or through a conifer forest.

**cover type**

The current or existing vegetation of an area, described by the dominant vegetation.

**critical habitat**

Endangered Species Act - Designated by the FWS or NMFS, specific areas, within a geographical area occupied by a threatened or endangered species, on which are found physical or biological features essential to conservation of the species. These areas may require special management consideration or protection, and can also include specific areas outside the occupied area that are deemed essential for conservation.

**critical life stages**

Animal life stages associated with the time of the year when reproduction, rearing young, and over-wintering occur.

**cultural resources**

Cultural resources include sites, structures, or objects used by prehistoric and historic residents or travelers. They are non-renewable resources that tell of life-styles of prehistoric and historic people. Cultural resources within the Forests are diverse and include properties such as archaeological ruins, pictographs, early tools, burial sites, log cabins, mining structures, guard stations, and fire lookouts.

**cumulative effects**

Impacts on the environment that result from the incremental impact of an action when added to other past, present, and reasonably foreseeable future actions. Cumulative effects can result from individually minor but collectively significant actions taking place over a period of time.

**decay classes<sup>1</sup> (for snags and coarse woody debris)**

<b>DECAY CLASS 1<sup>2</sup></b>	Snags	Snags that have recently died, typically have little decay, and retain their bark, branches, and top.
	Logs	Logs created by trees that have recently fallen over, and still have intact or loose bark, large branches present, a round shape, little to some wood decay, and are resting above or are in contact with the ground.
<b>DECAY CLASS 2</b>	Snags	Snags that show some evidence of decay and have lost some of their bark and branches and often a portion of the top.
	Logs	Logs with bark partially intact to sloughing, no fine branches, large branches present, wood largely hard to soft, may be round, log may be sagging.
<b>DECAY CLASS 3</b>	Snags	Snags that have extensive decay, are missing the bark and most of the branches, and have a broken top.
	Logs	Bark is absent, few branches present, wood is soft and powdery (when dry), shape is round, oval, or hard to see.

<sup>1</sup>From Bull et al. 1997

<sup>2</sup>Grand fir and Douglas-fir tend to retain their bark and therefore snags and coarse wood of these species may not meet the appropriate decay class bark description.



**defensible space**

An area around a structure where fuels and vegetation are treated, cleared, or reduced to slow the spread of wildfire towards the structure. This space also reduces the chance of a structure fire moving from the building to the surrounding forest.

**degradation**

To degrade, or the act of degrading. Refer to the definition of “degrade” in this glossary.

**degrade**

To degrade is to measurably change a resource condition for the worse within an identified scale and time frame. Where existing conditions are within the range of desired conditions, “degrade” means to move the existing condition outside of the desired range. Where existing conditions are already outside the range of desired conditions, “degrade” means to change the existing condition to anything measurably worse. The term “degrade” can apply to any condition or condition indicator at any scale of size or time, but those scales need to be identified. This definition of “degrade” is not intended to define degradation for the State of Idaho as it applies to their Antidegradation Policy (IDAPA 16.01.02.051).

**demographic**

Related to the vital statistics of human populations (size, density, growth, distribution, etcetera).

**denning habitat or sites**

Habitat and locations used by mammals during reproduction and rearing of their young, when the young are highly dependent on adults for survival.

**designated communication site**

An area of National Forest System land, designated through the land and resource management planning process, for use as a communication site. These designations constitute a long-term allocation of National Forest System land. A communications site may be limited to a single communications facility, but often encompasses more than one.

**designated utility corridor**

A linear strip of National Forest System land, designated through the land and resource management planning process, for use as a utility corridor. These designations constitute a long-term allocation of National Forest System land. A utility corridor may be used to accommodate more than one utility use.

**designee**

Related to fire suppression, a designee is a person with delegated line officer authority.

**Desired Condition (DC)**

Also called Desired Future Condition, a portrayal of the land, resource, or social and economic conditions that are expected in 50-100 years if management goals and objectives are achieved. A vision of the long-term conditions of the land.

**Desired Future Condition (DFC)**

Also called desired condition, a portrayal of the land, resource, or social and economic conditions that are expected in 50-100 years if management goals and objectives are achieved. A vision of the long-term conditions of the land.

### **detrimental soil disturbance**

Detrimental soil disturbance (DD) is the alteration of natural soil characteristics that results in immediate or prolonged loss of soil productivity and soil-hydrologic conditions. At least 85 percent of an activity area should be in a non-detrimentally disturbed condition. Stated another way, no more than 15 percent of an activity area should have detrimentally disturbed soil after the management activity is completed. DD can occur from soil that has been displaced, compacted, puddled or severely burned. Determination of DD excludes existing or planned classified transportation facilities, dedicated trails, and landings, mining dumps or excavations, parking areas, developed campgrounds, and other dedicated facilities. However, the impacts of these actions are considered total soil resource commitment (TSRC - see definition in this glossary). DD is represented by any or all of the four characteristics described below.

1. *Detrimental Soil Displacement.* Areas of 1 meter by 1 meter or larger that exhibit detrimentally displaced soil as described below:

- (a) The loss of either 5 cm or half of humus-enriched top soil (A horizon), whichever is less,  
or
- (b) The exceeding of the soil loss tolerance value for the specific soil type.

2. *Detrimental Soil Compaction.* Soil compaction is generally evaluated from 5 to 30 centimeters below the mineral soil surface. Specific depths for measurement are dependent upon soil type and management activities. Detrimental soil compaction is increased soil density (weight per unit volume) and strength that hampers root growth, reduces soil aeration, and inhibits water movement. Measurements of potential detrimental soil compaction may be qualitative or quantitative. Refer to the Region 4 Soil Quality Handbook for methods related to measuring/determining soil compaction.

3. *Detrimental Soil Puddling.* Puddling is generally evaluated at the mineral soil surface. Visual indicators of detrimental puddling include clearly identifiable ruts with berms in mineral soil, or in an Oa horizon of an organic soil. Detrimental puddling may occur in conjunction with detrimental compaction. The guidelines for soil compaction are to be used when this occurs. Detrimentally puddled soils are not always detrimentally compacted. Infiltration and permeability are affected by detrimental soil puddling. Puddling can also alter local groundwater hydrology and wetland function, and provide conduits for runoff.

4. *Severely Burned Soil.* Severely burned soil applies to prescribed fire and natural fires that are managed for resource benefits. Severely burned soils are identified by ratings of fire severity and the effects to the soil. A severely burned soil is generally soil that is within a High Fire Severity burn as defined by the Forest Service Burned Area Emergency Rehabilitation Program (FSH 2509.13) and Debano et al. (1998). An example of a High Fire Severity rating is provided below. Soil humus losses, structural changes, hydrophobic characteristics and sterilization are potential effects of severely burned soil.

Example of High Fire Severity Rating – High soil heating, or deep ground char occurs where the duff is completely consumed and the top of the mineral soil is visibly reddish or orange on severely burned sites. Color of the soil below 1 cm is darker or charred from organic material that has heated or burned. The char layer can extend to a depth of 10 cm or more. Logs can be consumed or deeply charred, and deep ground char can occur under slash concentrations or under burned logs. Soil textures in the surface layers are changed and fusion evidenced by clinkers that can be observed locally. All shrub stems are consumed and only the charred remains or large stubs may be visible. Soil temperatures at 1 cm are greater than 250 C. Lethal temperatures for soil organisms occur down to depths of 9 to 16 cm.

Standards for detrimentally disturbed soils are to be applied to existing or planned activities that are available for multiple uses. These standards do not apply to areas with dedicated uses such as mines, ski areas, campgrounds, and administrative sites.

**developed recreation**

Recreation that requires facilities that in turn result in concentrated use of an area; for example, a campground or ski resort.

**discountable effect**

A discountable effect is one that is highly unlikely to occur. Therefore, no change to a resource, social, or economic condition would be expected from a discountable effect. Determination of a discountable effect may be based on scientific analysis, professional judgment, experience, or logic.

Specific to the ESA and effects on Threatened, Endangered, Proposed or Candidate species, the appropriate determination for discountable effects on these species would be: “Is not likely to adversely affect”. Refer to the “adverse effect” definition in this glossary.

**dispersed recreation**

Recreation that does not occur in a developed recreation setting, such as hunting, scenic driving, or backpacking.

**disturbance**

Any event, such as wildfire or a timber, sale that alters the structure, composition, or function of an ecosystem.

**disturbance regime**

Any recurring event that influences succession, such as fire, insects, ice storms, blow down, drought, etc.

**easement**

A special-use authorization for a right-of-way that conveys a conditioned interest in National Forest System land, and is compensable according to its terms.

**ecological integrity**

In general, ecological integrity refers to the degree to which the elements of biodiversity and the processes that link them together and sustain the entire system are complete and capable of performing desired functions. Exact definitions of integrity are somewhat relative and may differ depending on the type of ecosystem being described.

**ecological function**

The activity or role performed by an organism or element in relation to other organisms, elements, or the environment.

**ecological processes**

The actions or events that link organisms (including humans) and their environment such as disturbance, successional development, nutrient cycling, productivity, and decay.

**Ecological Reporting Unit (ERU)**

In the Upper Columbia River Basin DEIS, a geographic mapping unit developed by the Science Integration Team to report information on the description of biophysical environments, the characterization of ecological processes, the discussion of past management activities and their effects, and the identification of landscape management opportunities.

**economic efficiency**

Producing goods and services in areas best suited for that production based on natural biophysical advantage or an area's ability to best serve regional demands of people.

**economic dependency**

The degree to which a community is dependent upon National Forest resources for employment and income.

**economic region**

A group of communities and their surrounding rural areas that are linked together through trade.

**ecosystem**

A naturally occurring, self-maintained system of living and non-living interacting parts that are organized into biophysical and human dimension components.

**ecosystem health**

A condition where the components and functions of an ecosystem are sustained over time and where the system's capacity for self-repair is maintained, such that goals for ecosystem uses, values, and services are met.

**ecosystem management**

Scientifically based land and resource management that integrates ecological capabilities with social values and economic relationships, to produce, restore, or sustain ecosystem integrity and desired conditions, uses, products, values, and services over the long term.

**effective ground cover**

Effective ground cover consists of vegetation, litter, and rock fragments larger than three-fourths inch in diameter. It is expressed as the percentage of material, other than bare ground, covering the land surface. It may include live vegetation, standing dead vegetation, litter, cobble, gravel, stones, and bedrock. The minimum effective ground cover, following the cessation of disturbance in an activity area, should be sufficient to prevent detrimental erosion. Minimum amounts of ground cover necessary to protect the soil from erosion are a function of soil properties, slope gradient and length, and erosivity (precipitation factor), and must be determined locally. Rock fragments, litter, and canopy might be treated independently, depending on the model used to estimate erosion hazard ratings.

**electronic sites**

See communication sites.

**elements of ecosystem management**

Essential building blocks of the biophysical (i.e., historical range of variability) and human dimension (i.e., demographics; tribal) components for Southwest Idaho Ecosystem Management Framework.

**eligibility**

For Wild and Scenic Rivers, an evaluation of river features to determine which rivers qualify to be studied for possible addition to the WSR System. Two screening criteria are used for a river segment to be eligible for inclusion in the WSR system. The river must be free-flowing, and it must possess one or more outstandingly remarkable scenic, recreational, geological, fish and wildlife, historical, cultural, ecological, or other value.

**elk site distance**

Distance at which vegetation hides 90 percent of an elk from view.

**encroachments**

Improvements occupied or used on National Forest System lands without authorization.

**encumbrance**

A claim, lien, right to, liability, or interest attached to and binding real property.

**endangered species**

Designated by the FWS or NMFS, an animal or plant species that has been given federal protection status because it is in danger of extinction throughout all or a significant portion of its natural range.

**Endangered Species Act (ESA)**

An act passed by Congress in 1973 intended to protect species and subspecies of plants and animals that are of “aesthetic, ecological, educational, historical, recreational, and scientific value”. It may also protect the listed species’ critical habitat, the geographic area occupied by or essential to the species. The FWS (USFWS) and NMFS share authority to list endangered species, determine critical habitat, and develop species’ recovery plans.

**enhance**

In a Recreation Opportunity Spectrum context, enhance means to address or resolve setting inconsistencies in the adopted ROS strategy classifications.

**entrainment**

The drawing in and transport by the flow of a fluid. For example, fish can be entrained into a canal as water is diverted into the canal, if the diversion is not screened.

**entrapment**

To catch in, as in a trap. For example, the entrainment of fish into a diversion canal may result in fish entrapment in the canal should they not be able to return to the stream they were diverted from.

**ephemeral stream**

A stream or portion of a stream that flows only in direct response to precipitation or run-off events, and that receives little or no continuous water from springs, snow, or other sources. Unlike intermittent streams, an ephemeral usually does not have a defined stream channel or banks, and its channel is at all times above the water table.

**eradicate (noxious weeds)**

To eliminate a noxious weed from a given area, including all viable seeds and vegetative propagules.

### **Essential Fish Habitat (EFH)**

EFH is broadly defined by the Magnuson-Stevens Act as, “those waters and substrate necessary to fish for spawning, breeding, feeding, or growth to maturity”. This language is interpreted or described in the 1997 Interim Final Rule [62 Fed. Reg. 66551, Section 600.10 Definitions] -- Waters include aquatic areas and their associated physical, chemical, and biological properties that are used by fish and may include historic areas if appropriate. Substrate includes sediment, hard bottom, structures underlying the waters, and associated biological communities. Necessary means the habitat required to support a sustainable fishery and the managed species’ contribution to a healthy ecosystem. “Spawning, breeding, feeding, or growth to maturity” covers a species’ full life cycle. Federal agencies are required, under '305(b)(2) of the MSA and its implementing regulations (50 CFR 600 Subpart K), to consult with NMFS regarding actions that are authorized, funded, or undertaken by that agency that may adversely affect EFH).

### **essential habitat**

Used to describe habitat of listed species under ESA, but not designated as “critical habitat”. Essential habitat has all the important elements of habitat necessary to sustain a species.

### **exotic species**

Animals or plants that have been introduced from a distant place and are non-native to the area of introduction.

### **facility**

Structures needed to support the management, protection, and utilization of the National Forests, including buildings, utility systems, bridges, dams, communication system components, and other constructed features. There are three categories of facilities: recreation, administrative, and permitted.

### **fg (foreground)**

The visual distance zone relating to the detailed landscape found within 0 to 0.25 to 0.5 mile from the viewer.

### **fine filter approach**

A focus on individual species (management indicator species, threatened and endangered species, etc.).

### **fire-adapted ecosystem**

An ecosystem with the ability to survive and regenerate in a fire-prone environment.

### **Fire Management Plans**

A strategic plan that defines a program to manage wildland and prescribed fires and documents the Fire Management Program described in the approved Forest Plan.

### **fire regimes**

The characteristics of fire in a given ecosystem, including factors such as frequency, intensity, severity, and patch size. The terms used for the different fire regimes are: Nonlethal, Mixed1, Mixed2, and Lethal. Nonlethal fires are generally of lowest intensity and severity with the smallest patches of mortality, while lethal fires are generally of highest intensity and severity with the largest patches of mortality. The others fall in between.

### **fire intensity**

The effects of fire on the above-ground vegetation generally described in terms of mortality.

**fire severity**

Fire effects at and below the ground surface. Describes the impacts to organic material on the ground surface, changes to soils, and mortality of below-ground vegetative buds, roots, rhizomes, and other organisms.

**fire suppression tactics**

The tactical approaches regarding suppression of a wildland fire. These range from Control, Confine, Contain, and Monitor. Control is the most aggressive tactic, while Monitor is the least.

**fire use**

The combination of wildland fire use and prescribed fire application to meet resource objectives.

**FIREWISE**

A public education program developed by the National Wildland Fire Coordinating Center that assists communities located in proximity to fire-prone lands.

**floodprone area width**

The area that would be expected to be covered by water if the wetted stream depth were twice bank full height, determined at the deepest part on a given transect. This width is then extrapolated over the length of the stream reach by averaging several random transects taken within the project area.

**fluvial fish**

Fish that migrate, but only within a river system. Bull trout that migrate into larger river systems.

**forage**

Plant material (usually grasses, forbs, and brush) that is available for animal consumption.

**forbs**

Broadleaf ground vegetation with little or no woody material.

**forest development road**

See National Forest System road.

**forest development trail**

As defined in 36 CFR 212.1 and 261.2 (FSM 1013.4), a trail wholly or partly within or adjacent to and serving National Forests and other areas administered by the Forest Service that has been included in the forest development transportation plan.

**forest development transportation plan**

The plan for the system of access roads, trails, and airfields needed for the protection, administration, and use of National Forests and other lands administered by the Forest Service, or the development and use of resources upon which communities within or adjacent to National Forests are dependent (36 CFR 212.1).

**forest road**

As defined in Title 23, Section 101 of the United States Code, any road wholly or partly within, or adjacent to, that serves the National Forest System and that is necessary for the protection, administration, and utilization of the National Forest System and the use and development of its resources.

**forested stringers**

Stands of forested vegetation that are long and narrow and surrounded by non-forested vegetation. Stringers often provide high value habitat for big game and other wildlife species because they are the only hiding or thermal cover in the immediate area.

**forest system trail**

See Forest Development Trail.

**forest telecommunications system**

All equipment and related facilities used for the purpose of Forest communication. This includes but is not limited to radio, voice, data, and video communications.

**forest transportation atlas**

An inventory, description, display, and other associated information for those roads, trails, and airfields that are important to the management and use of National Forest System lands, or the development and use of resources upon which communities within or adjacent to the National Forests depend.

**forest transportation facility**

A classified road, designated trail, or designated airfield—including bridges, culverts, parking lots, log transfer facilities, safety devices, and other transportation network appurtenances—under Forest service jurisdiction that is wholly or partially within or adjacent to National Forest System lands.

**forest transportation system management**

The planning, inventory, analysis, classification, recordkeeping, scheduling, construction, reconstruction, maintenance, decommissioning, and other operations taken to achieve environmentally sound, safe, cost-effective, access for use, protection, administration, and management of National Forest System lands.

**fragmentation**

The splitting or isolation of habitat into smaller patches because of human actions. Habitat can be fragmented by management activities such as timber harvest and road construction, and changes such as agricultural development, major road systems, and reservoir impoundments.

**free flowing**

Existing or flowing in a natural condition without impoundment, diversion, straightening, riprapping, or other modification in the waterway.

**geoclimatic setting**

The geology, climate (precipitation and temperature), vegetation, and geologic processes (such as landslides or debris flows) that are characteristic of a place; places with these similar characteristics are said to have the same geoclimatic setting.

**Geographic Information System (GIS)**

A computer system that stores and uses spatial (mappable) data.

**Geomorphic Integrity**

Geomorphic integrity is an assessment and comparison of existing soil-hydrologic conditions with historical conditions that existed before Euro-American settlement. Upland, riparian, and stream conditions are assessed to determine how their integrity and resilience may have changed due to effects from past or current human-caused (road construction, timber harvest, livestock grazing, etc.) or natural



(wildfire, floods, etc.) disturbance. Relative integrity ratings are assessed at the subwatershed scale and based on the geomorphic resilience of streams and wetland/riparian areas, and the ability of the system to absorb and store water.

**goal**

As Forest Plan management direction, a goal is a concise statement that helps describe a desired condition, or how to achieve that condition. Goals are typically expressed in broad, general terms that are timeless, in that there are no specific dates by which the goals are to be achieved. Goal statements form the basis from which objectives are developed.

**goods and services**

36 CFR 219 - The various outputs produced by forest and rangeland renewable resources. The tangible and intangible values of which are expressed in market and non-market terms.

**guideline**

As Forest Plan management direction, a guideline is a preferred or advisable course of action generally expected to be carried out. Deviation from compliance does not require a Forest Plan amendment (as with a standard), but rationale for deviation must be documented in the project decision document.

**habitat**

A place that provides seasonal or year-round food, water, shelter, and other environmental conditions for an organism, community, or population of plants or animals.

**habitat security**

The protection inherent in any situation that allows big game to remain in a defined area despite an increase in stress or disturbance associated with the hunting season or other human activity. The components of security may include, but are not limited to: vegetation, topography, road density, general accessibility, hunting season timing and duration, and land ownership. Habitat security is area specific, while hiding cover (see definition below) is site specific.

**hardening**

Used in the context of facility management, hardening refers to improvements, usually to the surfacing of roads, trails, campsite areas, and facility access areas, to reduce soil erosion and/or sedimentation in nearby watercourses. These improvements can include paving, gravel surfacing, or a number of other soil stabilization products and techniques.

**head month**

One head month is equal to 1 month's use and occupancy of the range by one animal. For grazing fee purposes, it is a month's use and occupancy of range by one weaned or adult cow with or without calf, one bull, one steer, one heifer, one horse, one burro, or one mule; or five sheep or five goats.

**Heritage Program**

The Forest Service program that encompasses all aspects of cultural resource management, including both project and non-project resource inventory, evaluation, mitigation, curation, interpretation, public participation and education, protection and monitoring, and support to other resources.

**hibernaculum**

Winter residence, or any natural covering for protecting organisms during the winter. This term is often used for bat wintering and roosting areas, which may include caves, mine adits, or loose tree bark.

**hiding cover**

Vegetation capable of hiding 90 percent of an adult elk or deer from a human's view at a distance equal to or less than 200 feet.

**hierarchy**

A general integrated system comprising two or more levels, the higher controlling to some extent the activities of the lower levels; a series of consecutively subordinate categories forming a system of classification.

**historical emissions**

The amount of smoke assumed to be produced annually or decadal, based on the number of acres burned in each historical fire regime. Used to provide a reference for current conditions.

**Historical Range of Variability (HRV)**

The natural fluctuation of healthy ecosystem components over time. In this document, HRV refers to the range of conditions and processes that likely occurred prior to settlement of the area by people of European descent (around the mid 1800s), and that would have varied within certain limits over time.

**historic property**

Any prehistoric or historic district, site, building, structure, or object included on, or eligible for inclusion on the National Register, including artifacts, records, and material remains related to such a property or resource.

**human dimensions**

Refers to social and economic components of an ecosystem.

**hydrologic**

Refers to the properties, distribution, and effects of water. "Hydrology" is the study of water; its occurrence, circulation, distribution, properties, and reactions with the environment.

**Hydrologic Unit Code (HUC)**

A hierarchal coding system developed by the U.S. Geological Service to map geographic boundaries of watersheds of various sizes.

**hydric**

Wet or moist conditions. Can refer to a habitat characterized by, or a species adapted to wet or moist conditions, rather than mesic (moderate) or xeric (dry) conditions.

**Idaho Department of Water Resources Comprehensive Water Plan**

State legislation provides for the development of a comprehensive state water plan that may include protected rivers designated either as natural or recreational rivers. The legislative purpose states that selected rivers possessing outstanding fish and wildlife, recreational, aesthetic, historic, cultural, natural, or geologic values should be protected for the public benefit and enjoyment. The legislation provides that a waterway may be designated as an interim protected river prior to the preparation of the comprehensive plan for the waterway.

**impinge**

To strike or dash, especially with a sharp collision. For fish, impingement, or physical contact with screen material, can cause some level of injury and/or mortality. Fish impingement onto a screen face can usually be avoided with proper consideration of diversion design hydraulics. Fish screen criteria used in the Northwest specifies that approach velocity must be less than 0.4 feet per second to adequately protect salmonid fry.

**indicator**

In effects analysis, a way or device for measuring effects from management alternatives on a particular resource or issue.

**Infish**

Interim Inland Native Fish Strategy for Intermountain, Northern, and Pacific Northwest Regions (USDA Forest Service).

**infrastructure**

The facilities, utilities, and transportation systems needed to meet public and administrative needs.

**in lieu lots (*Sawtooth only*)**

Lots that are permitted to recreation residence tract permittees in lieu of existing lot permits that cannot be renewed due to a change in land use or allocation, etc. See FSH 2709.11, Chapter 2721.23f.

**inner gorge**

Steep valley walls that bound a stream reach. Common in areas of stream downcutting or geologic uplift. More commonly found on the costal and cascade ranges.

**insignificant effect**

An insignificant effect is one that cannot be detected, measured, or evaluated in any meaningful way. Therefore, no change to a resource, social, or economic condition would be expected from a insignificant effect. Determination of an insignificant effect may be based on scientific analysis, professional judgment, experience, or logic.

Specific to the ESA and effects on Threatened, Endangered, Proposed or Candidate species, an insignificant effect can never reach the scale or magnitude where a species take occurs. The appropriate effects determination for insignificant effects on these species would be: "Is not likely to adversely affect". Refer to the "adverse effect" definition in this glossary.

**Integrated Weed Management**

A multi-disciplinary, ecological approach to managing weed infestations involving the deliberate selection, integration, and implementation of effective weed control measures with due consideration of economic, ecological, and sociological consequences.

**interior exclusion**

A parcel of non-National Forest System land within the Forest boundary that can be acquired without having Congress change the exterior Forest boundary.

### **interim management direction**

For Wild and Scenic Rivers, the identified outstandingly remarkable values are afforded adequate protection, subject to valid existing rights. Affording adequate protection requires sound resource management decisions based on NEPA analysis. Protective management may be initiated by the administering agency as soon as eligibility is determined. Specific management prescriptions for eligible river segments provide protection to free-flowing values, river-related values, and classification impacts.

### **intermittent stream**

A stream or portion of a stream that flows only in direct response to precipitation or seasonal run-off, and that receives little or no water from springs or other permanent sources. Unlike ephemeral streams, an intermittent has well-defined channel and banks, and it may seasonally be below the water table.

### **Inventoried Roadless Area (IRA)**

An area that:

- (1) is larger than 5,000 acres or, if smaller, contiguous to a designated wilderness or primitive area;
- (2) contains no improved roads maintained for travel by standard passenger-type vehicles;
- (3) is characterized by a substantially undeveloped character; and
- (4) has been inventoried by the Forest Service for possible inclusion in the Wilderness Preservation System.

These areas include those identified in a set of IRA maps—contained in the Forest Service Roadless Area Conservation Final EIS, Volume 2 (November 2000), and held at the National headquarters of the Forest Service—or any update, correction, or revision of those maps. Refer to Table C-5 in Appendix C to the Forest Plan Revision Final EIS for a listing of IRAs, their location, and acreage.

### **isolated cabin**

Cabins on sites not planned or designated for recreational cabin purposes. These cabins are authorized by special-use permit.

### **key watershed**

Governor's Bull Trout Conservation Plan (7/96) - A watershed that has been designated as critical to long-term persistence of regionally important bull trout populations. Designation is based on existing bull trout population biology and not land ownership. Land management actions emphasize maintenance or recovery of bull trout. Key watersheds must:

- be selected to provide all critical habitat elements;
- be selected from best available habitat, with best opportunity to be restored to high quality;
- provide for replication of strong subpopulations within their boundaries;
- be large enough to incorporate genetic and phenotypic diversity, and small enough that subpopulations interconnect;
- be distributed throughout bull trout historic range.

Pacfish (1995) - A watershed that is important to "at risk" anadromous fish, provides good anadromous fish habitat, or is readily capable of providing good anadromous fish habitat, and is selected to contribute to a network across the landscape that provides for the long-term conservation of anadromous fish. By definition, a key watershed is currently occupied habitat, similar to a bull trout "priority" watershed.

**landscape scale assessment**

An assessment done for a landscape area varying in size from a 6th-field HU to a combination of 5th-field HUs, or approximately 10,000 to 100,000 acres. This scale is synonymous with “fine-scale analysis.” Ecosystem Analysis at the Watershed Scale (EAWS) occurs at this scale.

**landslide**

Any downslope mass movement of soil, rock, or debris.

**landslide prone area**

An area with a tendency for rapid soil mass movements typified by shallow, non-cohesive soils on slopes where shallow translational planar landsliding phenomena is controlled by shallow groundwater flow convergence. The initiation is often associated with extremely wet periods, such as rain-on-snow events. It does not include slow soil mass movements that include deep earth-flows and rotational slumps, nor snow avalanche or rock fall areas. Translational slides have been documented as the dominant form of landslides for the majority of the Forest.

**landtype**

A portion of the landscape resulting from geomorphic and climatic processes with defined characteristics having predictable soil, hydrologic, engineering, productivity, and other behavior patterns.

**landtype associations**

A grouping of landtypes similar in general surface configuration and origin.

**leasable minerals**

Leasable minerals are normally those “soft rock minerals” related to energy resources, such as oil, gas, coal, oil shale, tar sands, etc. Some “hard rock” minerals can become leasable because of land status, i.e., acquired mineral estate.

**lifestyle**

The way people live.

**local road**

Roads that connect terminal facilities with Forest collector or arterial roads, or public highways. The location and standard are usually controlled by topography and specific resource activities rather than travel efficiency. Forest local roads may be developed and operated for long-term, intermittent, short-term, or temporary service.

**locatable minerals**

Locatable minerals are normally those “hard rock minerals” that are either base or precious metals, and that are open and available for appropriation under the General Mining Laws. In Idaho, locatable minerals often include gold, silver, lead, zinc, copper, antimony, cadmium, cobalt, molybdenum, etc.

**Magnuson-Stevens Act**

Public Law 94-265, as amended through October 11, 1996. Ocean fisheries are managed under the Magnuson Fishery Conservation and Management Act of 1976 (also called the Magnuson-Stevens Act [MSA]). The Act provided NMFS legislative authority for fisheries regulation in the United States, in the area between three-miles to 200 miles offshore and established eight Regional Fishery Management

Councils (Councils) that manage the harvest of the fish and shellfish resources in these waters. In 1996, the MSA was re-authorized and changed by amendments to emphasize the sustainability of the nation's fisheries and establish a new standard by requiring that fisheries be managed at maximum sustainable levels and that new approaches be taken in Essential Fish Habitat conservation.

### **maintain**

When used in a management goal or objective for biological and physical resources, “maintain” means to stay within the range of desired conditions. The context is that resource conditions are already within their desired range, and the expectation is that management actions to achieve goals or objectives maintain resource conditions within their desired range in the planning period.

When used in a standard or guideline for biological and physical resources, “maintain” means that current conditions are neither restored or degraded, but remain essentially the same. The context is that resource conditions may or may not be in their desired range, and the expectation is that maintenance management actions do not degrade or restore current conditions.

This is an important distinction because most goal or objective management actions cannot be designed to achieve desired conditions for all resources. Specific actions are designed to achieve desired conditions for specific resources, but may simultaneously have effects on those or other resources. The intent behind “maintain” when used in a standard or guideline is to keep those effects from *degrading* resource conditions; i.e., moving conditions from functioning properly to functioning at risk, or making conditions measurably worse when they are currently functioning at risk or not functioning properly. See definitions for “degrade” and “restore” in this Glossary.

For Recreation, Scenic Environment, Heritage, Lands, Special Uses, and Wilderness resources, “maintain” means to continue a current or existing practice, activity, management strategy, resource condition, or level of use.

For physical improvements managed under the Roads and Facilities programs, “maintain” means to keep the road or facility in a usable condition.

For resource inventories, databases, plans, maps, or other documents related to all resources, “maintain” means to periodically update these items to reflect current conditions and/or status.

### **management action or activity**

As identified in FSM 2527.05 - Any Federal activity including (1) acquiring, managing, and disposing of Federal lands and facilities, (2) providing federally undertaken, financed, or assisted construction or improvements, and (3) conducting Federal activities and programs affecting land use, including but not limited to water and related land resources planning, regulating, and licensing activities.

An exception to this definition is fire suppression, which is considered an emergency response action rather than a management action. FSM 2671.45f, part 2(a) states, “Human safety is the highest priority for every emergency response action (see FSM 5130.3 for related direction on the wildland fire suppression policy and the priority for the safety of firefighters, other personnel, and the public).”

### **management area**

A land area with similar management goals and a common prescription, as described in the Forest Plan.

**Management Indicator Species (MIS)**

Representative species whose habitat conditions or population changes are used to assess the impacts of management activities on similar species in a particular area. MIS are generally presumed to be sensitive to habitat changes.

**Management Prescription Category (MPC)**

Management prescriptions are defined as, “Management practices and intensity selected and scheduled for application on a specific area to attain multiple use and other goals and objectives” (36 CFR 219.3). MPCs are broad categories of management prescriptions that indicate the general management emphasis prescribed for a given area. They are based on Forest Service definitions developed at the national level, and represent management emphasis themes, ranging from Wilderness (1.0) to Concentrated Development (8.0). The national MPCs have been customized during Forest Plan revision to better fit the needs and issues of the Southwest Idaho Ecogroup Forests.

**management strategies**

For Forest Plan revision, this term is used to encompass both management direction and management emphasis (especially MPCs) that set the stage and sideboards for future actions or activities that may occur during the planning period. The strategies do not include any specific actions or activities, but rather focus on the general types and intensities of activities that could occur, given the management direction and prescriptions proposed under the Forest Plan alternatives.

**matrix**

In landscape ecology, a matrix is usually the most extensive and connected element present in a landscape. Patches and corridors are often imbedded in the matrix. The matrix may play a dominant role in the functioning of the landscape without being the most extensive landscape element. Determining the matrix in a landscape depends either on connectivity, dominance, or function. Each landscape should be evaluated individually.

**Maximum Modification (MM)**

Category of Visual Quality Objective (VQO) where human activity may dominate the characteristic landscape, but should appear as a natural occurrence when viewed as background.

**meaningful measures**

A recreation, wilderness, and heritage resources management process that:

- Establishes quality standards, based on validated visitor preferences and expectations, that are used to produce desired services and facilities;
- Accounts for the costs to manage resources;
- Establishes priorities for current budgets; and
- Links recreation resources to other management responsibilities of the agency

**measurable change**

A measurable change is one that can be meaningfully detected, measured, or evaluated using accepted analysis or monitoring methods. A measurable change would not result from an insignificant or discountable effect.

**mesic**

Moderate moisture conditions. Can refer to a habitat characterized by, or a species adapted to moderate moisture conditions rather than hydric (wet) or xeric (dry) conditions.

**metapopulation**

A group or collection of semi-isolated subpopulations of organisms that are interconnected and interact both physically and genetically. A population comprising local populations that are linked by migrants, allowing for recolonization of unoccupied habitat patches after local extinction events.

**middleground (mg)**

The visual distance zone between the foreground and the background in a landscape, located from 0.25 – 0.5 mile to 3-5 miles from the viewer.

**mitigate**

To avoid, minimize, reduce, eliminate, rectify, or compensate for impacts or degradation that might otherwise result from management actions.

**mitigation measures**

Modifications of actions that: (1) avoid impacts by not taking a certain action or parts of an action in a given area of concern; (2) minimize impacts by limiting the degree or magnitude of the actions and its implementation; (3) rectify impacts by repairing, rehabilitating, or restoring the affected environment; (4) reduce or eliminate impacts over time by preservation and maintenance operations during the life of the action; or (5) compensate for impacts by replacing or providing substitute resources or environments.

**Modification (M)**

Category of Visual Quality Objective (VQO) where human activity may dominate the characteristic landscape but must, at the same time, follow naturally established form, line, color, and texture. It should appear as a natural occurrence when viewed in foreground or middleground.

**monitoring**

The process of collecting information to evaluate if objectives and anticipated results of a management plan are being realized, or if implementation is proceeding as planned.

**Management Prescription Category (MPC)**

MPCs comprise a range of management prescriptions, from wilderness preservation to concentrated development, that can be applied across the Forest to indicate specific management emphasis in different areas.

**National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)**

The National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 requires environmental analysis and public disclosure of federal actions.

**National Fire Plan**

Strategic and implementation goals, budget requests and appropriations, and agency action plans to address severe wildland fires, reduce fire impacts on rural communities, and ensure effective firefighting capability in the future.

**National Fire Plan Communities**

Those communities identified in the January and August 2001 Federal Register as “Urban Wildland Interface Communities” for each state as part of the National Fire Plan.

**National Forest Scenic Byway**

A road on National Forest System land that has been designated by the Chief of the Forest Service for its exceptional scenic, historic, cultural, recreational, or natural resources.



**National Forest System road**

A classified Forest road under the jurisdiction of the Forest Service. The term “National Forest System road” is synonymous with the term “forest development road” as used in 23 U.S.C. 205.

**National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA)**

A Federal Act, passed in 1966, which established a program for the preservation of additional historic properties throughout the nation and for other purposes, including the establishment of the National Register of Historic Places, the National Historic Landmarks designation, regulations for supervision of antiquities, designation of the State Historic Preservation Offices (SHPO), guidelines for federal agency responsibilities, technical advice, and the establishment of the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation.

**National Register of Historic Places (NRHP)**

A list of cultural resources that have local, state, or national significance maintained by the Secretary of the Interior.

**National Wilderness Preservation System**

All lands managed under the Wilderness Act and subsequent wilderness designations, irrespective of the department or agency having jurisdiction.

**Nationwide Rivers Inventory (NRI)**

The NRI provides a database for potential additions to the National Wild and Scenic River System. The NRI is maintained and updated by the National Park Service. Just because a segment is listed on the NRI or is on other source lists does not necessarily indicate eligibility, and conversely, absence from any such list or document does not indicate a river’s ineligibility.

**native species**

Animals or plants that originated in the area in which they live. Species that normally live and thrive in a particular ecosystem.

**natural-appearing landscape character**

“Natural-appearing” refers to a visual landscape character that has resulted from a combination of geological processes, climate, disturbance events, and ecological succession.

**new facilities**

Facilities resulting from new construction in locations where no facilities previously existed.

**new road construction**

Activity that results in the addition of forest classified or temporary road miles (36 CFR 212.1).

**no action (alternative)**

The most likely condition expected to exist if current management practices continue unchanged. The analysis of this alternative is required for federal actions under NEPA.

**non-discretionary actions**

Land management activities initiated from outside the National Forest Service—such as mining proposals, special-use permitted activities, or suppression tactics for life-threatening situations.

### **Northwest Power Planning Council Protected Rivers**

The Council has designated certain river reaches in the Columbia River Basin as "protected areas". These are areas where the Council believes hydroelectric development would have unacceptable risks of loss to fish and wildlife species of concern, their productive capacity, or their habitat. Protected rivers are those reaches or portions of reaches listed on the "Protected Areas List".

### **noxious weed**

A state-designated plant species that causes negative ecological and economic impacts to both agricultural and other lands within the state.

### **nutrient cycling**

Circulation or exchange of elements such as nitrogen and carbon between non-living and living portions of the environment. Includes all mineral and nutrient cycles involving mammals and vegetation.

### **objective**

As Forest Plan management direction, an objective is a concise time-specific statement of actions or results designed to help achieve goals. Objectives form the basis for project-level actions or proposals to help achieve Forest goals. The time frame for accomplishing objectives, unless otherwise stated, is generally considered to be the planning period, or the next 10 to 15 years. More specific dates are not typically used because achievement can be delayed by funding, litigation, environmental changes, and other influences beyond the Forest's control.

### **Off Highway Vehicle (OHV)**

Any motorized vehicle designed for or capable of cross-country travel on or immediately over land, water, snow, ice, marsh, swampland, or other natural terrain. These include common vehicles such as motorcycles, ATVs, snowmobiles, 4-wheel drive vehicles, and trail bikes.

### **old forest**

Old forest is a component of the Large Tree Size Class, with the following general characteristics: a variability in tree size that includes old, large trees with signs of decadence, increasing numbers of snags and coarse woody debris, canopy gaps, and understory patchiness. There are two broad types of old forest in the Southwest Idaho Ecogroup area—single-storied and multi-storied. Single-storied old forest is characterized by a single canopy layer of large or old trees. These stands generally consist of widely spaced, shade-intolerant species, such as ponderosa pine and western larch, that are adapted to a nonlethal high frequency fire regime. Multi-storied old forest is characterized by two or more canopy layers, with large or old trees in the upper canopy. These stands can include both shade-tolerant and shade-intolerant species, and are typically adapted to a mixed regime of both lethal and nonlethal fires. Because old forest characteristics have been aggregated into two basic categories, it is generally easier to identify, monitor, and compare the characteristics of these old forest types with desired vegetative conditions than it is with "old growth" (see old growth definition, below).

### **old growth**

Old growth is a defined set of forested vegetation conditions that reflect late-successional characteristics, including stand structure, stand size, species composition, snags and down logs, and decadence. Minimum amounts of large trees, large snags, and coarse wood are typically required. Definitions of old growth generally vary by forest type, depending on the disturbance regimes that may be present. Also, within a given forest type, considerable variability can exist across the type's geographical range for specific ecological attributes that characterize late seral and climax stages of development. This variability among and within multiple (often 10-20) forest types makes old growth characteristics difficult to identify, monitor, and compare to desired vegetative conditions.

**opening (created)**

Related to vegetation management, openings are created only by planned, even-aged, regeneration timber harvesting. Only those even-aged timber harvest practices that reduce stocking levels to less than 10 percent create openings. Canopy closure will normally be used to determine stocking levels. Residual stands of mature trees will generally have less than 10 percent stocking when fewer than 10 to 15 trees per acre remain following harvest. Even-aged harvest practices that may result in the creation of openings include clear-cutting, reserve tree clear-cutting, seed tree cutting, shelterwood seed cutting, and overstory removal.

**outstandingly remarkable value (ORV)**

In the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act, river values identified include scenic, recreational, geologic, fish and wildlife, historic, cultural, or other similar values and their immediate environments. The Act does not further define outstandingly remarkable values. The Intermountain Region defines outstandingly remarkable value as, "Characteristic of a river segment that is judged to be a rare, unique, or exemplary feature that is significant at a regional or national scale".

**Pacfish**

Interim strategies for managing Pacific anadromous fish-producing watersheds in eastern Oregon and Washington, Idaho, and portions of California.

**Pacific Northwest Rivers Study**

A component of the Northwest Power Planning Council's Pacific Northwest Hydro Assessment Study. The study produced a comprehensive rating for five major classes of data including Resident Fish, Wildlife, Cultural Features, Natural Features, and Recreation. The study also identified reaches already protected by other State or Federal institutional constraints. Ratings were on a scale of 1-5, where 1 represented outstanding resource, 2 a substantial resource, 3 a moderate resource, 4 a limited resource, and 5 an unknown or absent resource.

**Partial Retention (PR)**

A category of Visual Quality Objective (VQO) where human activities may be evident to the casual Forest visitor but must remain subordinate to the characteristic landscape.

**Passport In Time**

A nationwide Forest Service program that provides opportunities for "hands-on" public involvement in cultural resources management, such as archeological excavations, historical research, and oral history collection.

**patches**

In landscape ecology, patches are spatial units at the landscape scale. Patches are areas surrounded by matrix, and may be connected by corridors. Patch size can affect species habitat, resource availability, competition, and recolonization. Patch shape and orientation also play an important ecological role. Interpatch distance refers to the distance between two or more patches

**patchy habitat**

Habitat that is naturally isolated from near-by pieces that are similar. Habitat that is patchy should not be referred to as being fragmented because it is not a man-induced condition.

**pattern, or spatial pattern**

The spatial arrangement of landscape elements (patches, corridors, matrix) that determines the function of a landscape as an ecological system.

**perennial stream**

A stream that typically maintains year-round surface flow, except possibly during extreme periods of drought. A perennial stream receives its water from springs or other permanent sources, and the water table usually stands at a higher level than the floor of the stream.

**Persons At One Time (PAOT)**

A recreational capacity measurement term indicating the number of people who can use a facility or area at one time.

**population**

The people, wildlife, fish, or plants that inhabit and reproduce in a specific area. Also, a group of individuals of the same species occupying a defined locality during a given time that exhibit reproductive continuity from generation to generation.

**potential classification**

For Wild and Scenic Rivers, when rivers are considered for eligibility, river segments are tentatively classified either as wild, scenic, or recreational, based on the degree of access and amount of development along the river area.

**potential outstandingly remarkable value assessment**

For Wild and Scenic Rivers, a general look at each river, to determine if the resource values are below average, average, or above average. Rivers determined to contain at least one resource value that is above average will be evaluated in the eligibility process.

**prescribed fire**

Any fire ignited by management actions to meet specific objectives.

**prescription (fire)**

Measurable criteria that define conditions under which a prescribed fire may be ignited, guide selection of appropriate management responses, and indicate other required actions. Prescription criteria may include safety, economic, public health, environmental, geographic, administrative, social, or legal considerations.

**Preservation (P)**

Category of Visual Quality Objective (VQO) that allows for ecological change only.

**primitive**

A Recreation Opportunity Spectrum classification for areas characterized by an essentially unmodified natural environment of fairly large size. Interaction between users is very low and evidence of other users is minimal. The area is managed to be essentially free from evidence of human-induced restrictions and controls. Motorized use within the area is not permitted.

**priority wildlife habitats**

Those habitats that have most decreased or changed from historic times. They can be used to rank the need for restoration or management emphasis.

**priority watershed**

Governor's Bull Trout Conservation Plan (7/96) - A watershed that is either in the best condition for this species or is most recoverable with the greatest opportunity for success. Priority watersheds can be classified as follows:

*Focal* - highly occupied, existing protection and maintenance, cost for protection is low, chance of success is high over the short term.

*Adjunct* - considerable restoration may be needed, riparian and in-channel restoration stand a good chance of succeeding, good opportunity for colonizing from adjacent habitat, restoration can improve adjacent refuge populations.

*Nodal* - critical to sustaining existing populations within the watershed, connected and accessible to migrating populations, restoration potential is high.

*Critical Contributing Area* - restoration is necessary to secure functional value for associated focal, adjunct, or nodal habitats.

*Lost Cause* - level of effort exceeds benefits.

**private road**

A road under private ownership authorized by an easement to a private party, or a road that provides access pursuant to a reserved or private right.

**professional judgment**

Intuitive conclusions and predictions dependent upon training; interpretation of facts, information, observations, and/or personal knowledge.

**promote**

In the context of recommended wilderness management, to take measures that actively encourage non-conforming uses within recommended wilderness. These measures would include the development or improvement of facilities and infrastructure within recommended wilderness in support of non-conforming uses. These measures would not include actions taken to reduce safety hazards and routine maintenance of existing facilities and infrastructure.

**Properly Functioning Condition (PFC)**

Properly Functioning Condition means that the resource condition is within the range of desired conditions.

**proposed action**

A proposal made by the Forest Service or other federal agency to authorize, recommend, or implement an action to meet a specific purpose and need.

**public road**

Any road or street under the jurisdiction of, and maintained by, a public authority and open to public travel [23 U.S.C. 101(a)].

**RARE I and RARE II**

Roadless area inventory processes, conducted by the Forest Service in 1972 and 1977, respectively, mandated by the Wilderness Act of 1964.

**rear**

To feed and grow in a natural or artificial environment.

**reclamation (mine facilities)**

Reclamation can include removing facilities, equipment, and materials; recontouring disturbed areas to near pre-mining topography; isolating and neutralizing, or removing toxic or potentially toxic materials; salvage and replacement of topsoil, and/or seedbed preparation, and revegetation.

**recreation residences**

Cabins on National Forest System lands that normally were established in tracts and built for recreation purposes with agency approval and supervision. These cabins are authorized by special use permit and are not the primary residences of the owners.

**Recreation Opportunity Spectrum (ROS)**

A framework for stratifying and defining classes of outdoor recreation environments, activities, and experience opportunities. The settings, activities, and opportunities for obtaining experiences are arranged along a continuum or spectrum divided into six classes--primitive, semiprimitive nonmotorized, semiprimitive motorized, roaded natural, rural, and urban.

**recreational river**

In the National Wild and Scenic River System, a river or river segment that is readily accessible by road or railroad, may have some development along their shorelines, and may have undergone some impoundment or diversion in the past.

**Recreation Visitor Day (RVD)**

Twelve hours of recreation use in any combination of persons and hours (one person for 12 hours, three persons for four hours, etc.).

**replacement facilities**

Reconstruction of pre-existing facilities.

**resident fish**

Fish that are non-migratory and spend their entire life cycle within a given freshwater area.

**resilient, resiliency**

The ability of a system to respond to disturbances. Resiliency is one of the properties that enable the system to persist in many different states of successional stages. In human communities, refers to the ability of a community to respond to externally induced changes such as larger economic or social forces.

**resistance-to-control hazard**

Conditions that, given the same topography and weather, have a higher likelihood of becoming a crown fire, which in turn can lead to fire behavior that makes the fire difficult to control.

**restoration**

Management actions or decisions taken to restore the desired conditions of habitats, communities, ecosystems, resources, or watersheds. For soil, water, riparian, or aquatic resources, restoration may include any one or a combination of active, passive, or conservation management strategies or approaches.

**restoration priority**

A means used in this Forest Plan revision to prioritize water quality and aquatic restoration using beneficial uses, current condition, imperiled fish species, 303(d)-listed water bodies, and TMDL-assigned subbasins. This process also includes whether restoration should be active or passive based upon district-level properly functioning condition analyses for 6<sup>th</sup> level hydrologic units (subwatersheds).

**restore**

For biological and physical resources, restore means to repair, re-establish, or recover ecosystem functions, processes, or components so that they are moving toward or within their range of desired conditions.

For the Recreation, Scenic Environment, Heritage, Lands, Special Uses, Wilderness, Roads and Facilities resources, restore means to use management actions to re-establish desired resource conditions.

**retard attainment of desired resource conditions**

When an effect resulting from a management action, individually or in combination with effects from other management actions, within a specified area and time frame, measurably slows the recovery rate of existing conditions moving toward the range of desired resource conditions.

**Retention (R)**

A category of Visual Quality Objective (VQO) where human activities are not evident to the casual Forest visitor.

**riparian areas or zones**

Terrestrial areas where the vegetation complex and microclimate conditions are products of the combined presence and influence of perennial and/or intermittent water, associated with high water tables, and soils that exhibit some wetness characteristics.

**Riparian Conservation Areas (RCAs)**

Portions of watersheds where riparian-dependant resources receive primary emphasis, and management activities are subject to specific goals, objectives, standards, and guidelines. RCAs include traditional riparian corridors, perennial and intermittent streams, wetlands, lakes, springs, reservoirs, and other areas where proper riparian functions and ecological processes are crucial to maintenance of the area's water, sediment, woody debris, nutrient delivery system, and associated biotic communities and habitat.

**Riparian Habitat Conservation Area (RHCAs)**

To be used for the No Action Alternative only. As defined in Pacfish and Infish:

*Fish-bearing streams* - 100-year floodplain, outer edges of riparian area, to top of inner gorge, 300 feet slope distance, or two site potential tree heights, whichever is greatest.

*Perennial nonfish-bearing streams* - 100-year floodplain, outer reach of riparian area, to top of inner gorge, 150 feet slope distance, or one site potential tree height, whichever is greatest.

*Intermittent streams (includes landslide-prone areas and wetlands less than 1 acre)* - top of inner gorge, extent of landslide-prone area, outer edges of riparian area, and for key watersheds one site potential tree height or 100 feet slope distance (whichever is greatest), and for non-key watersheds half site potential tree height or 50 feet slope distance (whichever is greatest).

*Ponds, lakes, and wetlands greater than 1 acre* - outer edges of seasonally saturated soils, edge of riparian area, extent of any unstable soils, one site potential tree height, or 150 feet from maximum pool elevation, whichever is greatest.

### **river segment**

For Wild and Scenic River studies, a portion of the river area, which has been delineated for evaluation and planning purposes, that usually breaks at a change in river character, land status, or classification.

### **road**

A motor vehicle travelway over 50 inches wide, unless designated and managed as a trail. A road may be classified, unclassified, or temporary.

### **road decommissioning**

Activities that result in the stabilization and restoration of unneeded roads to a more natural state (36 CFR 212.1, FSM 7703).

### **road maintenance**

The ongoing upkeep of a road necessary to retain or restore the road to the approved road management objective (FSM 7712.3).

### **road maintenance level**

Road maintenance is classified in terms of the following levels:

- *Maintenance level 1* - Assigned to intermittent service roads during the time they are closed to vehicular traffic. Basic custodial maintenance is performed to keep damage to adjacent resources to an acceptable level and to perpetuate the road to facilitate future management activities.
- *Maintenance level 2* - Assigned to roads open for public or permitted use by high clearance vehicles. Passenger car traffic is not a consideration.
- *Maintenance level 3* - Assigned to roads open and maintained for travel by a prudent driver in a standard passenger car. User comfort and convenience are not considered priorities.
- *Maintenance level 4* - Assigned to roads that provide a moderate degree of user comfort and convenience at moderate travel speeds. Some roads may be paved and/or dust-abated.
- *Maintenance level 5* - Assigned to roads that provide a high degree of user comfort and convenience. These roads are normally paved.

### **road obliteration**

Road decommissioning technique used to eliminate the functional characteristics of a travelway and re-establish the natural resource production capability. The intent is to make the corridor unusable as a road or a trail and stabilize it against soil loss, which can involve re-contouring and restoring natural slopes.

### **road reconstruction**

Activity that results in improvement or realignment of an existing classified road as defined below:

- (a) *Road Improvement* – Activity that results in an increase of an existing road’s traffic service level expansion of its capacity, or a change in its original design function.
- (b) *Road Realignment* – Activity that results in a new location of an existing road or portions of an existing road and treatment of the old roadway (36 CFR 212.1).



**roads subject to the Highway Safety Act**

National Forest System roads open to use by the public for standard passenger cars. This includes roads with access restricted on a seasonal basis and roads closed during extreme weather conditions or for emergencies, but which are otherwise open for general public use.

**roaded natural**

A Recreation Opportunity Spectrum classification for areas characterized by a predominantly natural or natural-appearing environment with moderate evidence of the sights and sounds of people. Such evidence usually harmonizes with the natural environment. Interaction between users may be moderate to high, with evidence of other users prevalent. Resource modification and utilization practices are evident, but harmonize with the natural environment. Conventional motorized use is allowed and incorporated into construction standards and design of facilities.

**roadless area**

See Inventoried Roadless Area.

**RS 2477 claim**

A claim for a pre-existing road right-of-way based upon a mining law passed in 1866. The law was later repealed as a part of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act (FLPMA) of 1976.

**RS 2339 claim**

A claim for a pre-existing ditchline or other water transmission structure.

**rural**

ROS classification for areas characterized by a natural environment that has been substantially modified by development of structures, vegetative manipulation, or pastoral agricultural development. Resource modification and utilization practices may be used to enhance specific recreation activities and to maintain vegetative cover and soil. Sights and sound of humans are readily evident, and the interaction between users is often moderate to high. A considerable number of facilities are designed for use by a large number of people. Facilities are often provided for special activities. Moderate user densities are present away from developed sites. Facilities for intensified motorized use and parking are available.

**scale**

Defined in this framework as geographic extent; for example, region, sub-regional, or landscape scale.

**Scenery Management System (SMS)**

An updated system for the management of scenery resources designed to replace the Visual Management System (VMS) and instituted by the Forest Service in 1995. The SMS differs from the VMS in that:

- It increases the role of constituents throughout the inventory and planning process; and
- It borrows from and is integrated with the basic concepts and terminology of Ecosystem Management.

The SMS provides for improved integration of aesthetics with other biological, physical, and social/cultural resources in the planning process. It also incorporates different terminology and planning elements including Ecological Unit Description, Scenic Attractiveness, Scenic Integrity, Landscape Visibility, and Constituent Analysis. Under SMS, Scenic Integrity Objectives (SIOs) are established that define relative levels of deviation from the character valued by constituents for its aesthetic appeal. Implementation of SMS does not necessarily confer greater or less protection for scenic resources. It is merely a different system for managing them.

**Scenic river**

In the National Wild and Scenic River System, a river or river segment that may be accessible in places by roads, but the shorelines or watersheds are largely primitive and undeveloped.

**scoping**

The process the Forest Service uses to determine, through public involvement, the range of issues that the planning process should address.

**security cover or habitat**

Vegetation cover used by elk for concealment during the rifle-hunting season (Lyon and Canfield, 1991).

**sedimentation**

The action or process of forming and depositing sediments. Stream sedimentation occurs when water velocity cannot transport the bed load and suspended matter is deposited by gravity along the streambed.

**semiprimitive motorized**

ROS classification for areas characterized by predominantly natural or natural-appearing environment of moderate to large size. Concentration of users is low, but there is often evidence of other users. The area is managed in such a way that minimum on-site controls and restrictions may be present, but would be subtle. Motorized use of primitive roads with predominantly natural surfaces and trails suitable for motorcycles is permitted.

**semiprimitive nonmotorized**

ROS classification for areas characterized by predominantly natural or natural-appearing environment of moderate to large size. Interaction between users is low, but there is often evidence of other users. The area is managed in such a way that minimum on-site controls and restrictions may be present, but would be subtle. Motorized recreation use is not permitted, but primitive roads used for other resource management activities may be present on a limited basis. Use of such roads may be restricted to minimize impacts on recreational experience opportunities or other resources.

**sensitive species**

A Forest Service or BLM designation, sensitive plant and animal species are selected by the Regional Forester or the BLM State Director because population viability may be a concern, as evidenced by a current or predicted downward trend in population numbers or density, or a current or predicted downward trend in habitat capability that would reduce a species' existing distribution. Sensitive species are not addressed in or covered by the Endangered Species Act.

**Sensitivity Level**

A measure of the degree of visitor sensitivity to the visual environment that is used as a component for the determination of Visual Quality Objectives under the Visual Management System. Three sensitivity levels are employed, each identifying a different level of user concern for the visual environment:

- Level 1 – Highest Sensitivity
- Level 2 – Average Sensitivity
- Level 3 – Lowest Sensitivity

**significant cave**

A cave located on federal lands that has been determined to meet the criteria in 36 CFR 290.3(c) or (d) and has been designated in accordance with 36 CFR 290.3(e). A cave considered significant may contain biotic, cultural, mineralogical, paleontologic, geologic, hydrologic, or other resources that have important values for scientific, educational or recreational purposes.

**silviculture**

The care and tending of stands of trees to meet specific objectives.

**site potential tree height**

For delineating RCAs, a site potential tree height is the height that a dominant or co-dominant tree within a stand is expected to attain at an age of 200 years. Outside of RCAs, a site potential tree height is the average height that the dominant or co-dominant tree within a stand will attain within 100 years.

**snag**

A standing dead tree.

**soil erosion**

Soil erosion is the detachment and transport of soil particles or aggregates by wind, water, or gravity. Management practices may increase soil erosion hazard when they remove ground cover and detach soil particles. .

**soil-loss tolerance**

Soil-loss tolerance is the maximum rate of soil erosion at which plant productivity can be sustained indefinitely. It is dependent on the rate of soil formation.

**soil mass movement or soil mass erosion**

Soil mass movement is the downslope movement of earth caused by gravity. This includes but is not limited to landslides, rock falls, debris avalanches, and creep. It does not, however, include surface erosion by running water. It may be caused by natural erosional processes, or by natural disturbances (e.g., earthquakes or wildland fire) or human disturbances (e.g., mining or road construction).

**soil productivity**

Soil productivity includes the inherent capacity of a soil under management to support the growth of specified plants, plant communities, or a sequence of plant communities. Soil productivity may be expressed in terms of volume or weight/unit area/year, percent plant cover, or other measures of biomass accumulation.

**spawning**

The act of fish reproduction. The mixing of the sperm of a male fish and the eggs of a female fish.

**special use authorization**

A permit, term permit, lease, or easement that allows occupancy or use rights or privileges on National Forest System lands (36 CFR 261.2).

**Special-use permit**

A special-use authorization that provides permission, without conveying an interest in land, to occupy and use National Forest System lands or facilities for specific purposes, and which is both revocable and terminable.

**species of concern**

An unofficial status for a species whose abundance is at low levels.

**species richness**

A measure of biological diversity, referring to the number of species in a given area.

**split estate**

Lands where ownership of the surface estate and mineral estate has been separated.

**standard**

As Forest Plan management direction, a standard is a binding limitation placed on management actions. It must be within the authority and ability of the Forest Service to enforce. A project or action that varies from a relevant standard may not be authorized unless the Forest Plan is amended to modify, remove, or waive application of the standard.

**State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO)**

A person appointed by a state's Governor to administer the State Historic Preservation Program.

**strongholds**

For fish, strongholds are watersheds that: (1) include all major life-history forms (resident, fluvial, adfluvial) that historically occurred there; (2) have numbers that are stable or increasing, with local populations at least half of their historical size; and (3) have populations with at least 5,000 individuals or 500 adults.

**structure**

The size and arrangement, both vertically and horizontally, of vegetation.

**subbasin**

A fourth field hydrologic unit that nests within the hierarchical system developed by the U.S. Geological Survey to describe watersheds. Typically 800,00 to 1,000,000 acres in size, a subbasin is smaller than a river basin (third field unit), and larger than a watershed (fifth field unit).

**substrate**

The composition of a streambed, including mineral and organic materials.

**subwatershed**

An area of land that drains to a common point. A subwatershed is smaller subdivision of a watershed but is larger than a drainage or site. Subwatersheds are often synonymous with sixth-field hydrologic units, which are nested within larger watersheds (fifth-field units), and are comprised of smaller drainages, sites, and stream reaches.

**subwatershed vulnerability**

Subwatershed vulnerability is an assessment of a subwatershed's sensitivity to disturbance and its resiliency or natural ability for restoration. The disturbance may be human-caused and/or natural. This assessment uses several criteria, including soil erosion rates, natural sediment yields, and percentage of landslide-prone areas within the subwatershed.

**succession**

The replacement in time of one plant community with another. The prior plant community (or successional stage) creates conditions that are favorable for the establishment of the next stage. These changes often occur in a predictable order. More specifically, the gradual and natural progression in composition and structure of an ecosystem toward a climax condition or stage.

**suitability**

For Wild and Scenic Rivers, an assessment or determination as to whether eligible river segments should be recommended for inclusion in the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System by Congress or the Secretary of the Interior. Wild and Scenic River suitability involves determining the best use of the eligible river and the best method to protect the outstandingly remarkable values within the river corridor.

**suited land**

Forest land designated in the Forest Plan to be managed for timber production on a regulated basis.

**sustainability**

The ability to maintain a desired condition or flow of benefits over time.

**sweet smelling toilet**

Vault toilet construction and management technology that has been developed specifically to reduce odor problems associated with vault toilets.

**temporary road**

Roads authorized by contract, permit, lease, other written authorization, or emergency operation, that are not intended to be a part of the forest transportation system, and that are not necessary for long-term resource management.

**thermal cover**

Vegetation used by animals to lessen the effects of weather. For elk, thermal cover is typically a stand of coniferous trees, 40 feet or taller, with an average crown closure of 70 percent or more.

**threatened species**

Designated by the FWS or NMFS; a plant or animal species given federal protection because it is likely to become endangered throughout all or a specific portion of its range within the foreseeable future.

**Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL)**

TMDL is the sum of waste load allocations for point sources, non-point sources, natural background, and a margin of safety. A TMDL specifies the amount of a pollutant that needs to be reduced to meet water quality standards set by the state. TMDL is used in a process to attain water quality standards that (1) identifies water quality problems and contributing pollutant sources, (2) allocates pollution control responsibilities among sources in the watershed, and (3) provides a basis for taking actions needed to restore a water body.

**Total Soil Resource Commitment (TSRC)**

TSRC is the conversion of a productive site to an essentially non-productive site for a period of more than 50 years. Examples include classified or unclassified roads, inadequately restored haul roads, designated skid roads, landing areas, parking lots, mining dumps or excavations, dedicated trails (skid trails also), developed campgrounds, other dedicated facilities, and some stock driveways. Productivity on these areas ranges from 0 to 40 percent of natural.

Standards for detrimentally disturbed soils are to be applied to existing or planned activities that are available for multiple uses. These standards do not apply to areas with dedicated uses such as mines, ski areas, campgrounds, and administrative sites.

### **traditional cultural property**

Traditional cultural property is defined as a property that is associated with cultural practices or beliefs or a living community that (1) are rooted in that community's history, and (2) are important in maintaining the continuing cultural identity of the community (National Register Bulletin 38)

### **trail**

A pathway for purposes of travel by foot, stock, ski, snowshoe, or trail vehicles.

### **trail vehicle**

Vehicles designed for trail use, such as bicycles, snowmobiles, trail bikes, trail scooters, and all terrain vehicles (ATVs).

### **transportation facility jurisdiction**

The legal right to control or regulate use of a transportation facility derived from fee title, an easement, an agreement, or other similar method. While jurisdiction requires authority, it does not necessarily reflect ownership.

### **travel corridor**

A linear strip of land defined for the present or future location of transportation facilities within its boundaries.

### **travel management**

The integrated planning of and providing for appropriate movement of people and products to and through National Forest System lands.

### **travel map or plan**

Physical documentation of the outcome of the travel management process reflecting the access decisions (travel orders) issued by the responsible official to restrict, prohibit, or allow the use of a described area or transportation facility to entry or mode of travel.

### **travelway**

Travelways existing on the national forest but not inventoried as part of the forest development transportation system. These routes vary in width, length and structure. Their origin is typically from off-road public travel, but may also be abandoned routes from past management activities such as mining, oil and gas exploration, grazing, and timber harvesting (see also unclassified roads). These roads may also include roads referred to as "two-tracks," "non-system roads," or "ghost roads".

### **uncharacteristic wildfire**

A fire that is burning in a way that does not emulate historical effects. This may include fire intensity, severity, size, and landscape patterns.

### **uncharacteristic wildfire hazard**

Conditions with the potential to lead to undesirable outcomes, in this case an uncharacteristic wildfire.

**unclassified road**

Roads on National Forest System lands that are not managed as part of the forest transportation system, such as unplanned roads, abandoned travelways, and off-road vehicle tracks that have not been designated and managed as trails. Unclassified roads also include those roads that were once under permit or other authorization and were not decommissioned upon the termination of the authorization (36 CFR 212.1).

**undertaking**

Any project, activity, or program that can result in changes in the character or use of any historic properties located in the area of potential effects (36 CFR 800.2). The project, activity, or program must be under the direct or indirect jurisdiction of a federal agency or licensed or assisted by a federal agency.

**undeveloped character**

In the context of land management, an area of land retaining its primeval character and influence, without permanent improvements or human habitation, which is managed so as to preserve its natural conditions and which generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature, with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable.

**unroaded areas**

Areas that do not contain classified roads.

**unstable areas**

Land areas that have a higher probability of increased erosion, landslides, and channel adjustment disturbances during climatic or physical events such as major storms or fires.

**urban**

ROS classification for areas characterized by a substantially urbanized environment, although the background may have natural-appearing elements. Renewable resource modification and utilization practices are often used to enhance specific recreational activities. Vegetative cover is often exotic and manicured. Sights and sounds of humans are predominant on the site. Large numbers of users can be expected both on the site and in nearby areas. Facilities for highly intensified motor use and parking are available with forms of mass transit often available to carry people throughout the site.

**utility corridor**

A linear strip of land defined for the present or future location of utility facilities within its boundaries.

**Variety Class**

A measure of the degree of variety within a visual landscape. There are three variety classes that identify the degree of variation of the natural landscape:

- Class A - Distinctive
- Class B - Common
- Class C - Minimal

**viable population**

A population that is regarded as having the estimated numbers and distribution of reproductive individuals to ensure that it will continue to exist over time and will be well distributed within a given area.

### **Visual Management System (VMS)**

A system for the management of scenery resources instituted by the Forest Service in 1974. It provides criteria for identification and classification of scenic quality on National Forest System lands. Scenic quality objectives are expressed in terms of Visual Quality Objectives (VQOs) that define the extent of allowable alteration of the natural-appearing landscape character. VQOs are determined based on a combination of natural landscape features and human use zones as expressed by Variety Class and Sensitivity Level.

### **Visual Quality Objective (VQO)**

Categories of acceptable landscape alteration measured in degrees of deviation from the natural-appearing landscape. The categories include Preservation, Retention, Partial Retention, Modification, and Maximum Modification.

### **Vulnerability**

Refers to lack of animal security during the hunting season. Vulnerability can be affected by conditions such as road density, road closures, openings, and hunting pressure.

### **Water Quality Integrity**

Water quality integrity is an assessment and comparison of existing water quality conditions with historical conditions that existed before Euro-American settlement. Physical, chemical, and biological water conditions are assessed to determine how their integrity and resilience may have changed due to effects from past or current human-caused (road construction, timber harvest, livestock grazing, etc.) or natural (wildfire, floods, etc.) disturbance. Conditions or values assessed include streambank damage, sediment loads, channel modification, flow disruption, thermal changes, chemical contamination, and biological stress. Relative integrity ratings are assigned at the subwatershed scale and are based on whether any designated beneficial use is not fully supported or any condition/value is seriously degraded.

### **water quality limited water bodies**

Denotes streams or other water bodies not meeting state Water Quality Standards. For purposes of Clean Water Act listing, these are waters that will not meet standards even with application of required effluent limitations.

### **Watershed**

Region or area drained by surface and groundwater flow in rivers, streams, or other surface channels. A smaller watershed can be wholly contained within a larger one, as watersheds are hierarchal in structure. For this document, watersheds are often synonymous with 5th field hydrologic units, which are nested within larger subbasins (4th field units), and are comprised of smaller subwatersheds (6th field units).

### **Watershed Condition Indicator (WCI)**

WCIs are an integrated suite of aquatic (including biophysical components), riparian (including riparian – associated vegetation species), and hydrologic (including uplands) condition measures that are intended to be used at the a variety of watershed scales. They assist in determining the current condition of a watershed and should be used to help design appropriate management actions, or to alter or mitigate proposed and or ongoing actions, to move watersheds toward desired conditions. WCIs represent a diagnostic means to determine factors of current condition and assist in determining future conditions associated with implementing management actions or natural restoration over time.

### **wetlands**

Land areas that are wet at least for part of the year, are poorly drained, and are characterized by hydrophytic vegetation, hydric soils, and wetland hydrology. Examples of wetlands include swamps, marshes, and bogs.



**Wilderness areas**

Areas that are without developed and maintained roads, and that are substantially natural, and that Congress has designated as part of the National Wilderness Preservation System.

**wildfire**

An unwanted wildland fire. Wildfires can be further described by two basic categories:

- (a) *characteristic*, which produce effects similar to those that occurred in the historical fire regime, or
- (b) *uncharacteristic*, which produce effects much different than those in the historical fire regime.

**wildfire risk**

Wildfire risk comprises the probability of an undesired wildfire event and the outcome of it. The undesired event realizes a hazard.

**wildland fire**

Any fire not involving a home or other structure, other than prescribed fire, that occurs in the wildland.

**wildland fire use (for resource benefits)**

The management of naturally ignited wildland fires to accomplish specific predated resource management objectives in predefined geographic areas outlined in Fire Management Plans.

**wildland fire use planning area**

Portions of the Forest that may be considered for wildland fire use consistent with the selected alternative. Delineation of the planning area or areas consider proximity to designated Wilderness, area size, location of administrative boundaries, adjacency to wildland-urban interface, and other factors. Further refinements to identify a feasible implementation area may take place during Fire Management Planning.

**wildland/urban interface**

The line, area, or zone where structures and other human developments meet or intermingle with wildland or vegetative fuel. Interface is further delineated into the following types:

- (a) *wildland/urban interface*—developed areas with residential structures where many structures border wildland on a broad front.
- (b) *wildland/rural interface*—developed areas with private residential structures where developments are few in number scattered over a large area surrounded by wildland.

**Wild river**

In the National Wild and Scenic River System, a rivers or river segment that is generally inaccessible (no roads) except by trail, with watersheds or shorelines that are essentially primitive (free of impoundments and polluted waters).

**winter range**

An area or areas where animals (usually ungulates such as elk, deer, bighorn sheep) concentrate due to favorable winter weather conditions. Conditions are often influenced by snow depth, and the availability or forage and thermal cover.

**xeric**

Dry conditions. Can refer to a habitat characterized by, or a species adapted to dry conditions, rather than hydric (wet) or mesic (moderate) moisture conditions.

**Zone of Influence (ZOI)**

The area that is economically and socio-economically influenced by Forest Service management.

**ACRONYMS AND SYMBOLS**

ADC	Animal Damage Control
AMR	Appropriate Management Response
AMS	Analysis of the Management Situation
APHIS	Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service
ASQ	Allowable Sale Quantity
ATV	All Terrain Vehicle
AUM	Animal Unit Month
BA	Biological Assessment
BAER	Burned Area Emergency Rehabilitation
BE	Biological Evaluation
Bg	Background (visual quality distance)
BLM	Bureau of Land Management
BMP	Best Management Practice
BO	Biological Opinion
CAA	Clean Air Act
CAP	Continuous Assessment and Planning
CCC	Civilian Conservation Corps
CFR	Code of Federal Regulations
CWA	Clean Water Act
CWD	Coarse Woody Debris
DBH	Diameter at Breast Height
DC	Desired Condition
DD	Detrimental Disturbance (soils)
DEIS	Draft Environment Impact Statement
DFC	Desired Future Condition
EA	Environmental Assessment
EFH	Essential Fish Habitat
EIS	Environmental Impact Statement
EM	Ecosystem Management
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency
ERU	Ecological Reporting Unit
ESA	Endangered Species Act
EAWS	Ecosystem Analysis at the Watershed Scale
FACA	Federal Advisory Committee Act
FEIS	Final Environmental Impact Statement
FERC	Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
Fg	Foreground (visual quality distance)
FSH	Forest Service Handbook
FSM	Forest Service Manual
GI	Geomorphic Integrity
GIS	Geographical Information System
HRV	Historical Range of Variability
HUC	Hydrologic Unit Code
ICBEMP	Interior Columbia Basin Ecosystem Management Project
IIT	Interagency Implementation Team
IRA	Inventoried Roadless Area
IWM	Integrated Weed Management
LRMP	Land and Resource Management Plan

## ***Glossary and Acronyms***

---

LTSYC	Long-Term Sustained Yield Capacity
LUCID	Local Unit Criterion Indicators
M	Modification (visual quality category)
MBF	Thousand board feet
MFSR	Middle Fork Salmon River
Mg	Middleground (visual quality distance)
MIS	Management Indicator Species
MM	Maximum Modification (visual quality category)
MMBF	Million Board Feet
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding
MPC	Management Prescription Category
NAAQS	National Ambient Air Quality Standards
NEPA	National Environmental Policy Act
NF	National Forest
NFMA	National Forest Management Act
NFS	National Forest System
NHPA	National Historic Preservation Act
NMFS	National Marine Fisheries Service
NOAA	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NOI	Notice of Intent
NRI	Nationwide Rivers Inventory
NWPPC	Northwest Power Planning Council
OHV	Off Highway Vehicle
ORV	Outstandingly Remarkable Value (for Wild and Scenic Rivers)
P	Preservation (visual quality category)
PAOT	Persons At One Time
PFC	Properly Functioning Condition
PILT	Payment in Lieu of Taxes
PNWRS	Pacific Northwest Rivers Study
PR	Partial Retention (visual quality category)
PVG	Potential Vegetation Group
PVT	Potential Vegetation Type
R	Retention (visual quality category)
RAP	Roads Analysis Process
RARE	Roadless Area Review and Evaluation
RCA	Riparian Conservation Area (from ICBEMP)
RHCA	Riparian Habitat Conservation Area (from Pacfish/Infish)
RMO	Riparian Management Objective
RNA	Research Natural Area
ROD	Record of Decision
ROS	Recreation Opportunity Spectrum
RPA	Forest and Rangeland Renewable Resources Planning Act of 1974
RVD	Recreation Visitor Day
SFSR	South Fork Salmon River
SMS	Scenery Management System
SINMAP	Stability Index Mapping
SNRA	Sawtooth National Recreation Area
SST	Sweet Smelling Toilet
TEPC	Threatened, endangered, proposed/petitioned, and candidate (species)
TEPCS	Threatened, endangered, proposed/petitioned, candidate, and sensitive (species)
TES	Threatened, endangered, and sensitive (species)

TMDL	Total Maximum Daily Load
TOC	Threshold Of Concern
TSPQ	Total Sale Program Quantity
TSRC	Total Soil Resource Commitment
UCRB	Upper Columbia River Basin
USDA	United States Department of Agriculture
USDI	United States Department of Interior
USFWS	United States Fish and Wildlife Service
VMS	Visual Management System
VQO	Visual Quality Objective
WARS	Watershed and Aquatic Recovery Strategy
WCI	Watershed Condition Indicator
WQI	Water Quality Integrity
WQLWB	Water Quality Limited Water Body
WSR	Wild and Scenic River
ZOI	Zone of Influence
>	Greater than
<	Less than